



268

DIGITAL
EDITION

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SPAWN





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PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Al visits Cyan, who's in a mental institution. After an awkward start, she starts to open up to him. They begin to talk about Wanda, but the conversation quickly takes a terrifying turn when Cyan drops her teddy bear. Al tries to pick it up but she instantly begins to scream and the nurses have to sedate her. Upon Terry's arrival, he blames Al for Cyan's outburst. Al tells him he thinks the outburst was a cause of some sort of drug in her system. Al pressures Terry to use his military contacts to give him a name of a lower level drug lord who he can use to start to stop some of the drug traffic in the city. Spawn goes to the drug dealer's hideout and threatens him, but things go wrong and kills one of the men. Later, when Terry returns to Cyan, she tells him she is in a lot of pain. Terry pulls out his prescription bottle containing Oxycodone and gives her one.



"I PROMISED MYSELF I WOULDN'T LET EMOTIONS GUIDE MY ACTIONS. THAT I'D STICK TO MY 'PLAN'. DO WHAT NEEDED TO BE DONE."

"BUT I CAN'T LET THIS ONE GO. NOT THIS ONE."



"THEY'VE MADE IT PERSONAL."

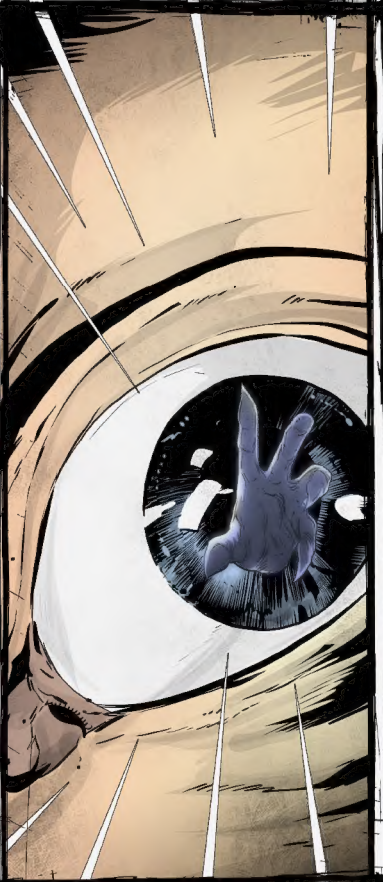


THURSDAY. 1:47 A.M.
BROOKLYN.

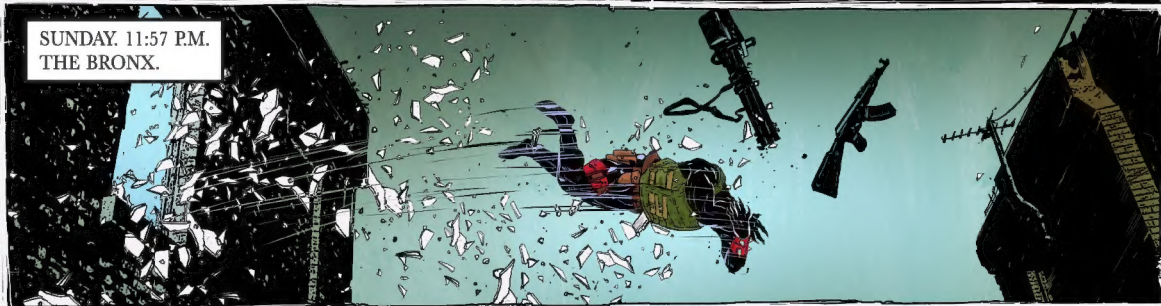
FRIDAY, 2:12 A.M.
STATEN ISLAND.



SATURDAY. JUST BEFORE DAWN.
QUEENS.



SUNDAY, 11:57 P.M.
THE BRONX.



"I CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS.
NOT BY MYSELF. NOT ALONE."

"I WON'T SURVIVE."



MONDAY MORNING.

WHAT
DO I HAVE TO
DO? DIE? IS
THAT WHAT YOU
WANT?

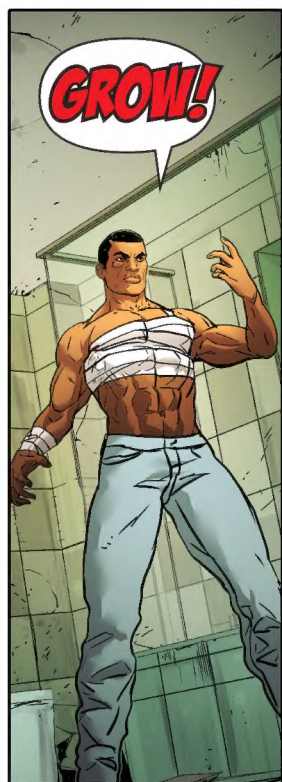
THEY KILL
ME--THEY KILL
YOU! DON'T YOU
GET THAT?

WE
NEED EACH
OTHER.

SO, HELP
ME! LIKE I
NEED YOU
TO!

SMASH

COME ON,
GODDAMN
YOU!



HIS ANGER IS MIXED WITH FRUSTRATION AND CONFUSION. HIS COSTUME KEEPS APPEARING WHEN HE GOES INTO BATTLE, SO IT SENSES 'SOMETHING'. AND HIS CHAINS HAVE TAKEN ON SOME NEW POWER THAT LEVITATES HIM.



BUT OTHER THAN COVERING HIS BODY, THE SYMBIOTE IS OFFERING LITTLE PROTECTION. WHAT WAS ONCE A FLEXIBLE BLACK ARMOR HAS NOW BECOME NOTHING MORE THAN A THIN FAÇADE.



AND IT'S BARELY TOUGHER THAN AL'S OWN HUMAN SKIN.

WHICH MEANS AL NEEDS TO FIND HIS HELP ELSEWHERE.

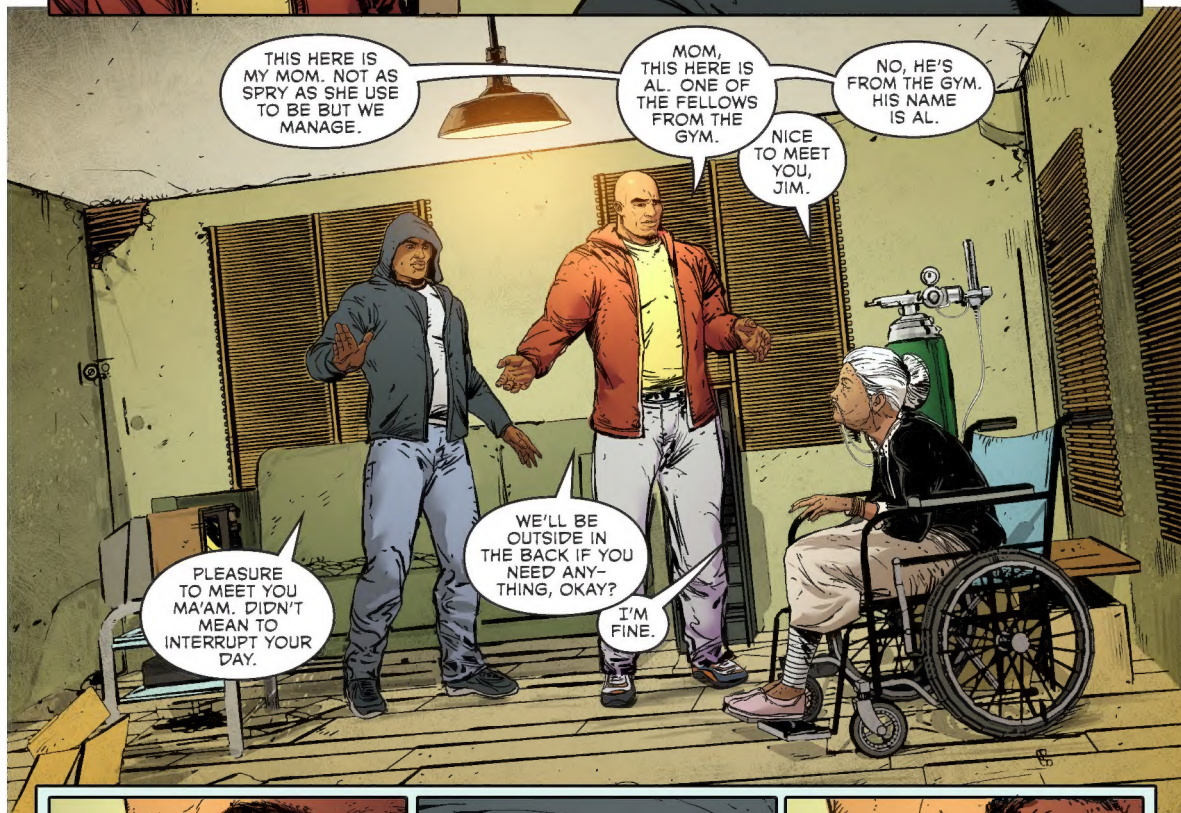




AL? THOUGHT THAT WAS YOU WALKING UP. WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THESE PARTS?

SURE. SURE. C'MON IN.

NEEDED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING.



THIS HERE IS MY MOM. NOT AS SPRY AS SHE USE TO BE BUT WE MANAGE.

MOM, THIS HERE IS AL. ONE OF THE FELLOWS FROM THE GYM.

NO, HE'S FROM THE GYM. HIS NAME IS AL.

NICE TO MEET YOU, JIM.

WE'LL BE OUTSIDE IN THE BACK IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, OKAY?

I'M FINE.

PLEASURE TO MEET YOU MA'AM. DIDN'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT YOUR DAY.



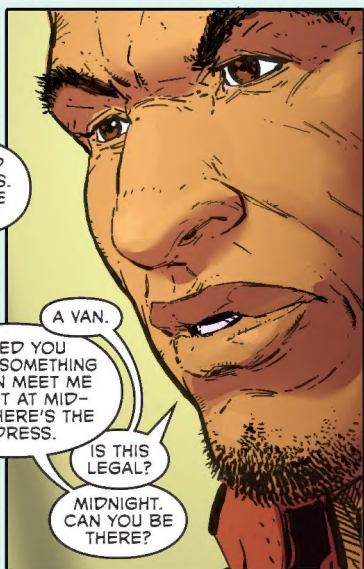
SO... WHAT'S UP?

YOU NEED WORK, EARL?

SURE. WHAT KIND?



THE KIND THAT PAYS. YOU HAVE A CAR?



A VAN.

I NEED YOU TO PICK SOMETHING UP THEN MEET ME TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT. HERE'S THE ADDRESS.

IS THIS LEGAL?

MIDNIGHT. CAN YOU BE THERE?



FERRY AND HIS DAUGHTER CYAN HAVE BEEN SITTING MOSTLY SILENT SINCE HE CAME TO VISIT HER. IT'S A ROUTINE THEY'VE GONE THROUGH BEFORE.



THE NURSES SAY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN EATING PROPERLY. YOU NEED TO KEEP YOUR STRENGTH UP, YOU KNOW.



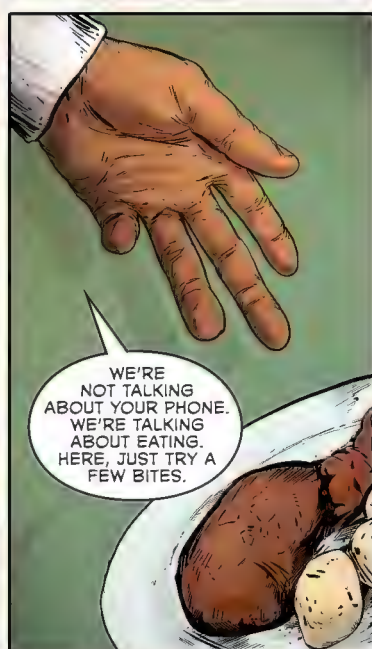
I'M NOT HUNGRY.



IT DOESN'T MATTER. YOUR BODY NEEDS FOOD IN IT.



WHY CAN'T I HAVE MY CELL PHONE?



WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR PHONE. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT EATING. HERE, JUST TRY A FEW BITES.



10:47 P.M.

THIS IS THE PLACE--WHERE ILLEGAL DRUGS ARE MIXED AND TRANSFERRED WITH LEGITIMATE PRODUCTS BEING SHIPPED FROM OVERSEAS. WITH SUCH MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF SHIPPING CONTAINERS PASSING THROUGH EVERYDAY, IT'S BEEN A PERFECT FRONT FOR YEARS.

NINETY-EIGHT PERCENT OF WHAT COMES HERE IS LEGAL. AL JUST NEEDS TO FIND OUT WHICH OF THE DOZENS OF TOWERS IS HIS TARGET.

HE HOPES ONE OF THE PHONES HE LIFTED FROM A PREVIOUS BATTLE WILL PROVIDE A CLUE.

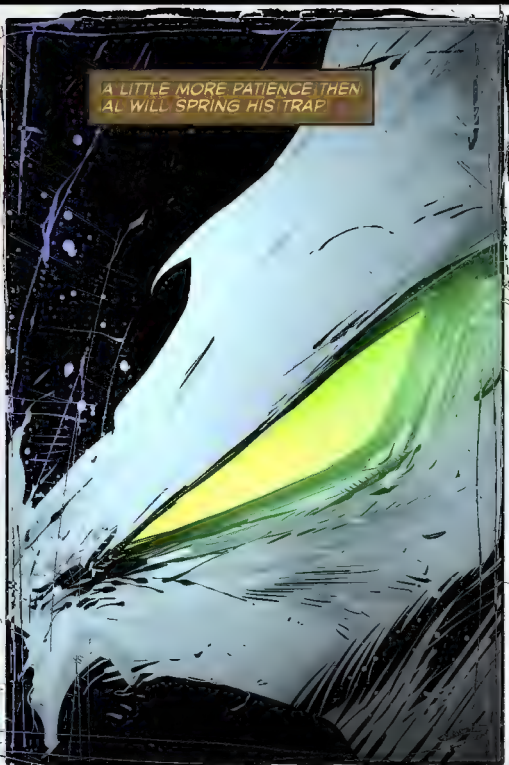


IT'S THE SAME NAME AS THE BILLBOARD NEAR THE TOWERS. HE DIALS IT.

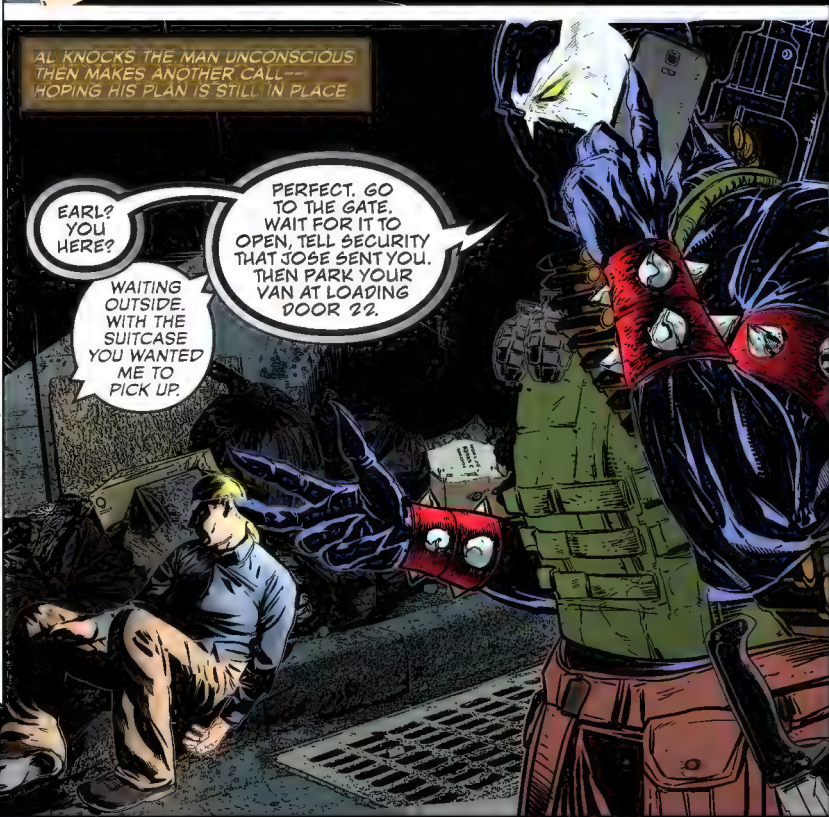
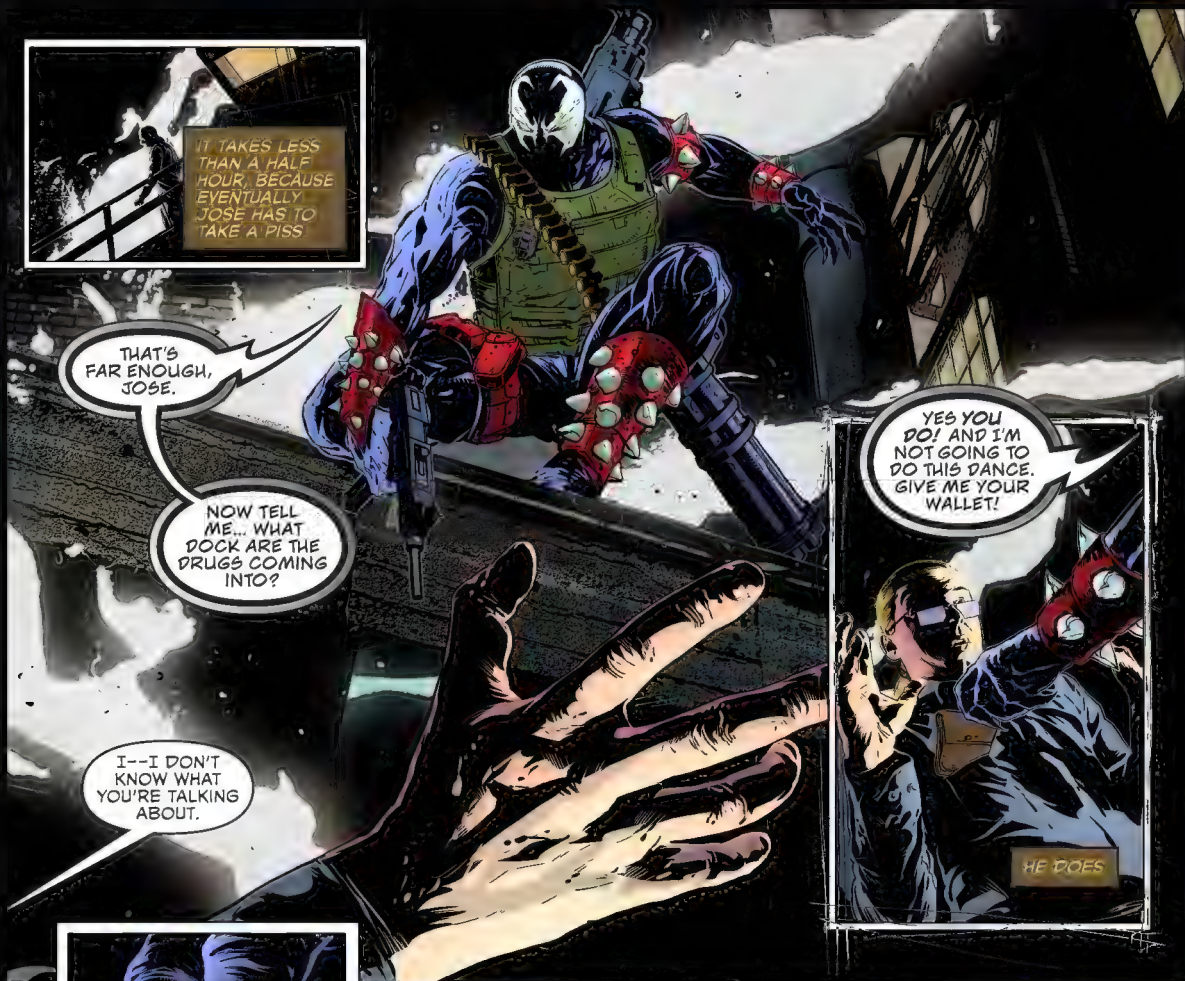
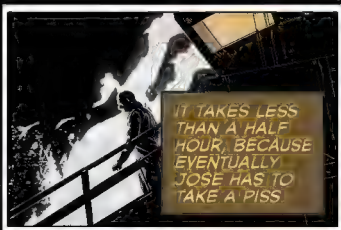
HELLO?
THIS IS JOSE.

HELLO...?

GOT HIM! IT'S THE GUY IN TOWER TWELVE



A LITTLE MORE PATIENCE THEN AL WILL SPRING HIS TRAP



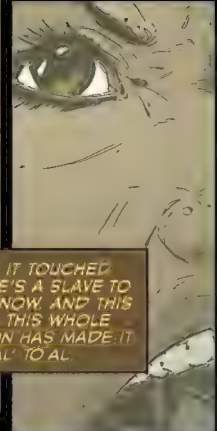


MAKE SURE YOU MARK ALL THE PAPERWORK THE WAY WE TRAINED YOU, AND DOUBLE CHECK TO MAKE SURE THERE'S NO MISTAKES. WE SAIL THROUGH HERE LIKE ALWAYS IF WE DO OUR JOBS RIGHT.

THE PROBLEM IS, THEIR SHIPMENTS ARE LOADED WITH SUBSTANCES THAT HIT THE STREETS OF THE POOR NEIGHBORHOODS, WHERE THEY TARGET THE YOUTH.



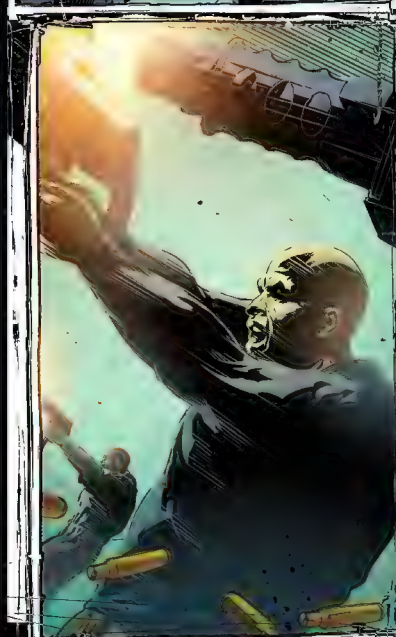
AND A PORTION OF THAT YOUTH BECOME ADDICTS OR SIMPLY DIE BEFORE THEY'RE OLD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'RE DOING TO THEMSELVES.



JUST LIKE IT TOUCHED CYAN. SHE'S A SLAVE TO HER 'FIX' NOW. AND THIS IS WHERE THIS WHOLE OPERATION HAS MADE IT PERSONAL TO AL.

C'MON BOYS. LET'S FINISH THIS UP! I TOLD 'MANAGEMENT' THAT WE'D BE DONE AND OUT OF HERE BY MIDNIGHT.

WE'VE GOT ANOTHER VESSEL COMING IN THREE DAYS AND I NEED THIS WAREHOUSE SPACE EMPTY FOR THAT NEW CARGO.



AND THE MORE OF THEM ON THE NORTH SIDE, THE EASIER IT'LL BE FOR AL TO GET SOMEONE THROUGH ON THE SOUTH SIDE

"JESUS CHRIST!"

"CALL THE OTHER BOYS!
TELL 'EM WE'RE UNDER
ATTACK!"

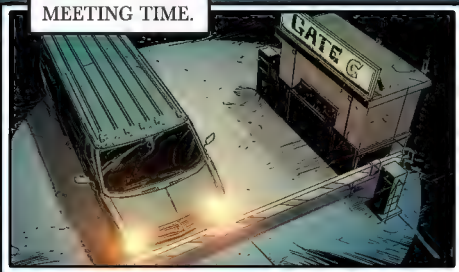
"GET THEIR
ASSES HERE
NOW!"

IT'S
COMING FROM
THE ROOF! BILLY!
GARY! GRAB YOUR
HEAVY STUFF AND
BLAST WHOEVER'S
UP THERE.

"THE PLACE TURNS INTO A WAR
ZONE AS AL MOVES FROM
POSITION TO POSITION TO
CREATE THE ILLUSION THERE'S
MORE THAN ONE ATTACKER

AND MORE IMPORTANTLY
TO KEEP THEM FLOWING
TOWARDS THE NORTH.

11:27 P.M.
ALMOST EARL'S
MEETING TIME.



CAN
I HELP
YOU?

YEAH. JOSE,
SENT ME OVER
HERE. WANTED ME
TO DROP OFF A
FEW THINGS.

DIDN'T
TELL ME
ABOUT
IT.

DOES THAT
TO ME ALL THE
TIME TOO. SAID
TO CALL IF YOU
WANTED.

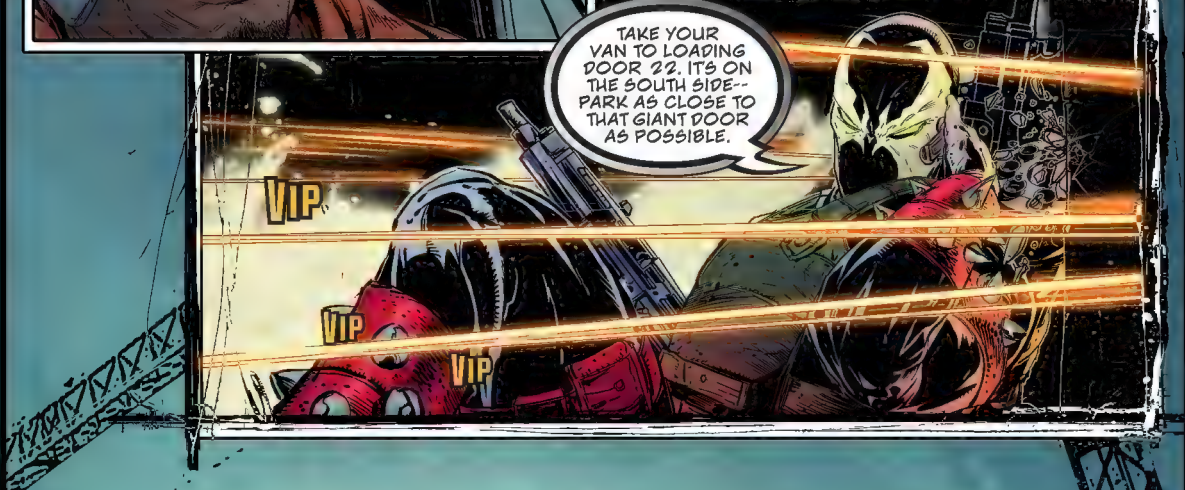
I DON'T
HAVE TIME FOR
HIM. YOU HEAR
THAT RACKET?
STAY CLEAR OF
WHATEVER THAT
IS, OKAY?

SURE, BOSS.



OKAY,
AL. I'M
IN.

TAKE YOUR
VAN TO LOADING
DOOR 22. IT'S ON
THE SOUTH SIDE--
PARK AS CLOSE TO
THAT GIANT DOOR
AS POSSIBLE.



AL, WHAT
THE HELL'S
GOING ON
DUDE!?

EARL, YOU
SAID YOU'D HELP.
BUT PART OF BEING
A GOOD SOLDIER IS
FOLLOWING ORDERS.
REMEMBER THAT?
IT WAS PART OF
YOUR NAVY
TRAINING?

I NEED
YOU TO
FOLLOW MY
ORDERS! I'LL
DEBRIEF YOU
LATER.



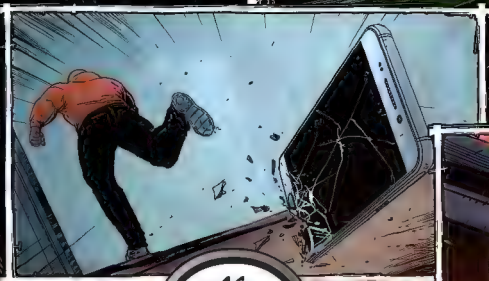




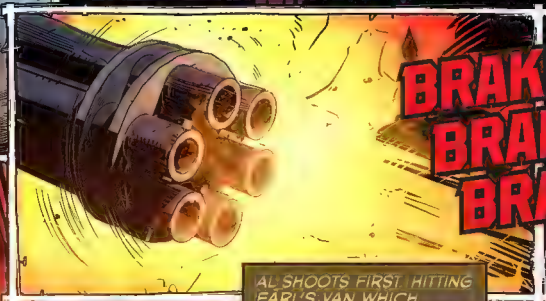
THEN LISTEN CAREFULLY, EARL...

YEAH.

RUN!



AS FAST AS YOU CAN!

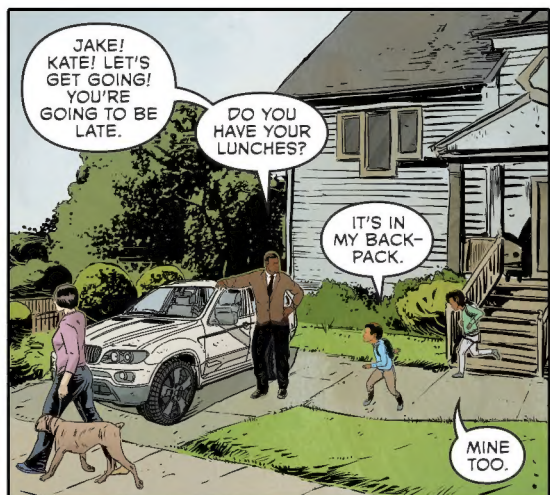


**BRAKKA
BRAKKA
BRAK**

AL SHOOT FIRST, HITTING EARL'S VAN WHICH CONTAINS THE SUITCASE HE PICKED UP. INSIDE THAT CASE ARE THIRTY SMALL 'DIRTY BOMBS'.



AND JUST AS HE'D PLANNED, ONE OF AL'S BULLETS HITS THE SUITCASE.

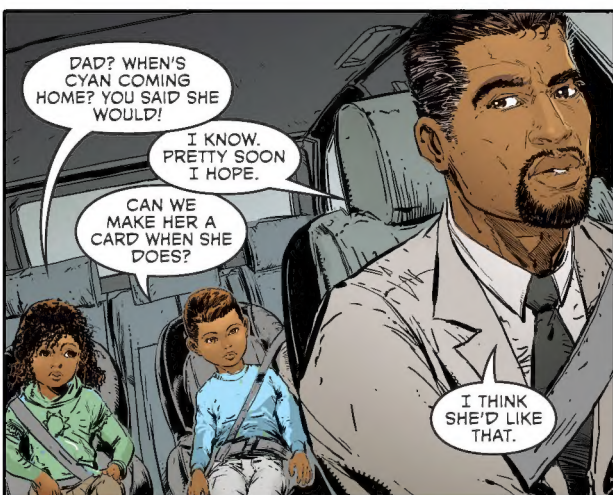


JAKE!
KATE! LET'S
GET GOING!
YOU'RE
GOING TO BE
LATE.

DO YOU
HAVE YOUR
LUNCHES?

IT'S IN
MY BACK-
PACK.

MINE
TOO.



DAD? WHEN'S
CYAN COMING
HOME? YOU SAID SHE
WOULD!

I KNOW.
PRETTY SOON
I HOPE.

CAN WE
MAKE HER A
CARD WHEN SHE
DOES?

I THINK
SHE'D LIKE
THAT.



NOW REMEMBER,
YOU'RE BOTH GOING
OVER TO JIMMY'S HOUSE
AFTER SCHOOL. HIS
MOM IS GOING TO BE
PICKING YOU UP.

I HATE
JIMMY!

KATE... THEN
STAY AWAY FROM
HIM. PLAY WITH THEIR
DOG OR DO A DRAWING
OR SOMETHING. I'LL
COME GET YOU AFTER
WORK AND MAYBE WE
CAN GO OUT FOR
DINNER!



HAVE
A GOOD
DAY!

BYE,
DAD.

beep beep beep



HELLO?

WHAT THE
HELL IS GOING ON,
FITZGERALD!? ARE YOU
TRYING TO F*CK WITH
ME? IS THAT IT?

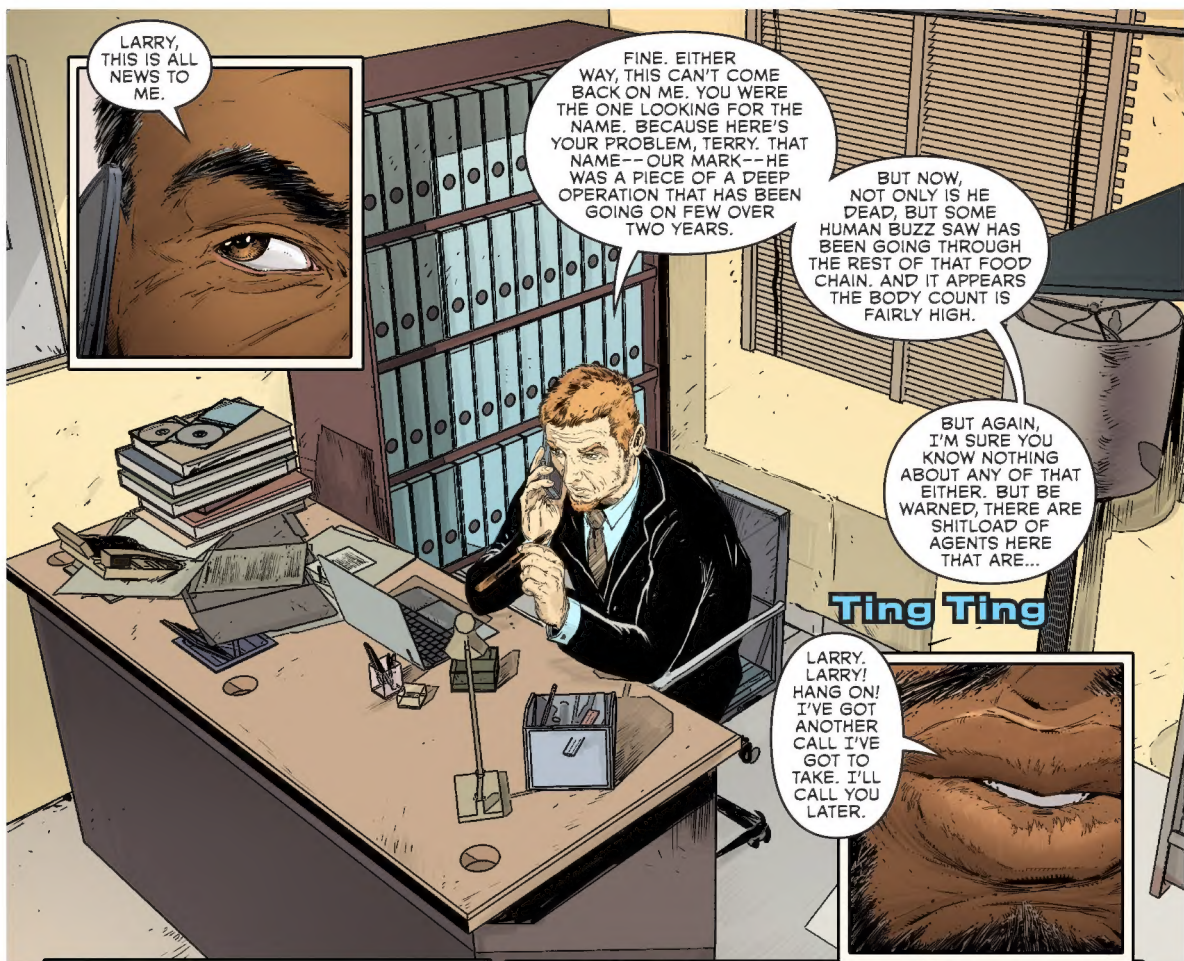
WHAT'RE
YOU SAYING?
JUST CALM DOWN
AND TELL ME WHAT
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT.

YOU
KNOW DAMN
WELL WHAT I'M
TALKING ABOUT!
THAT NAME
I GAVE YOU
WEDNES-
DAY...*

YEAH.

HE'S DEAD!
JUST GOT
CONFIRMATION TEN
MINUTES AGO. SO, I
GIVE YOU A NAME AND
NOW HE'S DEAD. TELL
ME YOUR HANDS
ARE CLEAN WITH
THIS!

*See last issue -- Todd



LARRY,
THIS IS ALL
NEWS TO
ME.

FINE. EITHER
WAY, THIS CAN'T COME
BACK ON ME. YOU WERE
THE ONE LOOKING FOR THE
NAME. BECAUSE HERE'S
YOUR PROBLEM, TERRY. THAT
NAME-- OUR MARK-- HE
WAS A PIECE OF A DEEP
OPERATION THAT HAS BEEN
GOING ON FEW OVER
TWO YEARS.

BUT NOW,
NOT ONLY IS HE
DEAD, BUT SOME
HUMAN BUZZ SAW HAS
BEEN GOING THROUGH
THE REST OF THAT FOOD
CHAIN. AND IT APPEARS
THE BODY COUNT IS
FAIRLY HIGH.

BUT AGAIN,
I'M SURE YOU
KNOW NOTHING
ABOUT ANY OF THAT
EITHER. BUT BE
WARNED, THERE ARE
SHITLOAD OF
AGENTS HERE
THAT ARE...

Ting Ting

LARRY.
LARRY!
HANG ON!
I'VE GOT
ANOTHER
CALL I'VE
GOT TO
TAKE. I'LL
CALL YOU
LATER.

tek

HELLO?

HELLO.
THIS IS DOCTOR
BLANCHARD. I WANTED
TO CALL AND INFORM YOU
THAT YOUR DAUGHTER HAS
HAD ANOTHER 'EPISODE'.
WE DON'T KNOW IF IT'S
A FULL SEIZURE BUT, I
THINK YOU SHOULD GET
HERE AS SOON AS
YOU CAN.

I'M
ON MY
WAY.



EXCUSE ME,
MR. FITZGERALD?
CAN I HAVE A
WORD?

SORRY,
BUD, BUT
I'M KIND OF
BUSY.

NOT
ANYMORE.

YOUR
COORDINATING
SUPERVISOR NEEDS
TO SEE YOU. NOW.
SHE HAS SOME
SERIOUS QUESTIONS
SHE NEEDS
ANSWERED.





Beep

THE PERSON
YOU ARE TRYING TO
REACH HAS NOT SET
UP A MAILBOX.
PLEASE CALL BACK
LATER.



THANK
YOU.

Beep

THIS IS
BULLSHIT.



KNOCK
KNOCK



UH... GO
AHEAD! COME
RIGHT IN *WITHOUT*
BEING INVITED. YOU'VE
GOT SOME NERVE
COMING HERE AFTER
ABANDONING ME LAST
NIGHT. I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO CALL YOU
ALL MORNING.

I DIDN'T
ABANDON YOU.
YOU'LL HAVE TO
TRUST ME ON
THAT.



IS THAT
RIGHT?

I JUST
WANTED TO MAKE
SURE YOU WERE
ALRIGHT.

OH, I'M
FAR FROM
ALRIGHT!

I CAN'T EXPLAIN
THINGS NOW-- IN TIME,
BUT NOT NOW. WHAT I NEED
TO KNOW IS WHETHER I CAN
COUNT ON YOU AGAIN. OTHER-
WISE I NEED TO FIND SOME-
ONE ELSE. YOU SAW HOW
UGLY IT CAN GET.

SO...
YOU IN?

JOE HARRIS & MEGAN HUTCHISON
TURN UP THE VOLUME WITH

ROCKSTARS™

An All-New Supernatural Mystery
Where The Hits Are The Hints To An
UNDERGROUND CONSPIRACY.

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